09/877,027

REMARKS

This is responsive to the final Office Action issued on August 11, 2003, in which claims 2, 3,

5-13 and 15-17 were allowed, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by

Goldenberg et al. (WO 94/15401), and claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as

being unpatentable over Goldenberg et al. in view of Taniguchi et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,225,843).

By this Response, the rejected claims 1, 4 and 14 are cancelled without prejudice. Thus, the

claim rejections are now moot. All of the pending claims 2, 3, 5-13, 15 and 16 stand allowed.

Therefore, this application is conditioned for allowance, and an indication of such is respectfully

requested. However, if the Examiner believes that the application can be put in even better

condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representatives listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby

made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit

account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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